

The Minneapolis Office of Violence Prevention uses a community-focused, public health approach to help reduce the impact of violence on our communities. We believe that violence is not inevitable. With collaborative, public health-informed responses, we can help prevent violence, support those impacted by violence, and heal from violence. We work to break the cycle of violence by addressing it at three points: before it begins, at the first signs of risk, and after it happens. To do that, we have many programs and initiatives that fall under three primary approaches: Evidence-informed Strategies, Capacity Building and Innovation, and Youth-Centered Prevention and Intervention.

## Evidence-Informed Strategies

*There is scientific research that supports the potential for effectiveness of several community violence prevention and intervention strategies. We believe it is important to rely on strategies that are grounded in theory, research, and demonstration of impact or promise. So, much of the work in the Office of Violence Prevention includes local versions of some of those established, evidence-informed interventions that have been used and evaluated in places across the country.*

### NEXT STEP

Next Step is a hospital-based program that connects victims of violent injury to resources and support. When someone is treated in the hospital for a violent injury, Next Step works with them on healing from the non-physical aspects of their wounds. Next Step staff provide immediate bedside support for participants and their families. Participants who want further support with changing their lives and stopping the cycle of violence continue to meet with staff in the community after they leave the hospital. Next Step is a partnership with Hennepin Healthcare/Hennepin County, North Memorial, and Abbott Northwestern and is also funded by the Minnesota Office of Justice Programs. More information about hospital-based violence intervention as an evidence-informed strategy is available here: [NNHVIP | Hospital-based Violence Intervention: Practices and Policies to End the Cycle of Violence](#)<sup>1</sup>.

### PROJECT LIFE/GROUP VIOLENCE INTERVENTION (GVI)

Group Violence Intervention (GVI) reduces street group-involved homicide and gun violence. GVI helps create accountability, fosters internal social pressure within groups that deters violence, and sets clear community standards against violence. GVI also offers a path for group members who want to leave the cycle of violence behind and resources and supports necessary to travel that path. More information about GVI as an evidence-informed strategy is available here: [NNSC | Group Violence Intervention](#)<sup>2</sup>.

### MINNEAPOLIS STRATEGIC OUTREACH INITIATIVE

The Minneapolis Strategic Outreach Initiative is a coordinated, public-health driven strategy that treats violence as a contagion and works to prevent and reduce community violence by stopping its spread. Teams of Violence Interrupters are a regular presence in parts of the city. They do not provide law enforcement services; instead, they use informal mediation, non-physical conflict resolution, and interruption expertise to prevent situations from turning violent. They also support behavior change for people who may be at risk for violence and connect people with resources to support them toward a path that does not involve violence. Cure Violence is one model of this kind of work; more information about that approach as an evidence-informed strategy is available here: [Cure Violence Global | The Evidence of Effectiveness](#)<sup>3</sup>.

## Capacity Building and Innovation

*In addition to evidence-informed strategies, we center capacity building and innovation. We believe it is important to be responsive to the needs and uniqueness of our local communities. We also believe part of our responsibility is to support incubation of new and promising ideas rooted in community. The epidemic of gun violence is complex, nuanced, and multifaceted, and it doesn't always look the same in different places or at different periods of time. And, the wisdom and expertise of local community are powerful, and we believe that our responses should reflect and incorporate that. We also know that the traditional methods that can be required for something to become "evidence-based" can sometimes intentionally or unintentionally exclude more grassroots approaches. Therefore, in the interest of equity it is critical to support community-driven approaches alongside more traditionally evaluated interventions.*

### BLUEPRINT APPROVED INSTITUTE

The Blueprint Approved Institute is designed for individuals and smaller grassroots community organizations doing violence prevention work. Through Blueprint Approved, participants learn skills and build capacity for further development of their organizations, receive funding to provide summer youth violence prevention programming with hands on support and technical assistance, and join a network of violence prevention provider peers.

### VIOLENCE PREVENTION FUND

The Violence Prevention Fund invests in community-led strategies that address multiple forms of violence in diverse ways. It is built on the understanding that a successful citywide approach to violence prevention must incorporate strategies that are rooted in the experience and wisdom of community-based practitioners. Violence Prevention Fund activities have included things like community building, space activation, youth skills training, youth-led programming, leadership development, street outreach, trauma awareness and resilience work, restorative justice events, partnership development across organizations and systems, community meals, resource referrals, and more.

## Youth-Centered Prevention and Intervention

*Within this work, we prioritize reducing risk and building up protective and resiliency factors for young people.*

### INSPIRING YOUTH

Inspiring Youth is an early intervention resource for young people (and their families) ages 10-17 experiencing factors that may put them at risk of involvement with violence. Young people are referred by schools and diversion partners. They're matched with a Youth and Family Worker. That person serves as an additional pro-social adult in the young person's life while also using deep knowledge of resources to navigate systems. The goal of that work is to promote protective and resiliency factors that can help buffer against risk factors associated with involvement with violence.

### YOUTH CONNECTION CENTER

Formerly called the Juvenile Supervision Center, the Youth Connection Center provides supportive services, needs assessment, resource and referral, and community-based aftercare for young people ages 10-17 who encounter law enforcement for truancy, curfew, and low-level offenses. The YCC is a 24/7 resource shared by the City of Minneapolis, Minneapolis Public Schools, and Hennepin County.

### COACHING ATHLETES INTO LEADERS

Through Coaching Athletes into Leaders, the Office of Violence Prevention partners with high school coaches to use a curriculum to talk with athletes about healthy relationships. This evidence-based model is designed to help prevent dating violence and relationship violence. We have worked with coaches at North, Henry, Edison, and Cooper high schools and community settings.

### POP-UP PARKS

A partnership with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to engage teenaged young people in fun and safe activities during the summer. Pop-Up Parks include a trailer filled with sports equipment, games, music, art supplies, and are led by caring and positive adult staff. Locations are based on parts of the city that are experiencing violence, special events, and other factors.

### BRIDGES TO MANHOOD

Bridges to Manhood is one of the Office of Violence Prevention's signature annual community engagement efforts. It brings together role models—professionals, coaches, faith leaders, artists, influential community members, and more—to support, lift up, and celebrate young indigenous men and young men of color.

### YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION WEEK

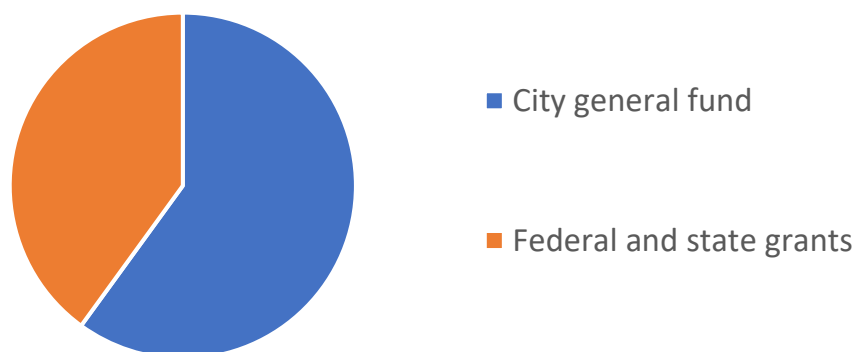
The Office of Violence Prevention observes Youth Violence Prevention (YVP) Week annually. During YVP Week, we sponsor a diverse array of community-driven youth-oriented activities including sports tournaments, art and theater performances, healing circles, and educational activities focused on youth empowerment. The goal of this weeklong campaign is to raise awareness about violence as a public health issue and to educate youth, parents, teachers, and the community on effective ways to prevent or reduce youth violence.

## 2021 Office of Violence Prevention Budget and Spending Overview

### OVERALL BUDGETED AMOUNT, 2021

In 2021, between City general funds, federal grant funds, and state grant funds, the Office of Violence Prevention was budgeted to spend approximately \$11.3 million.

Approximate Percentage of 2021 Office of Violence Prevention Budget Spending by Category



**City general funds:** The General Fund is the general operating fund of the City. The overall 2021 Adopted Budget for the City was \$1.47 billion. In 2021, approximately \$6.7 million in City general funds went to the Office of Violence Prevention.

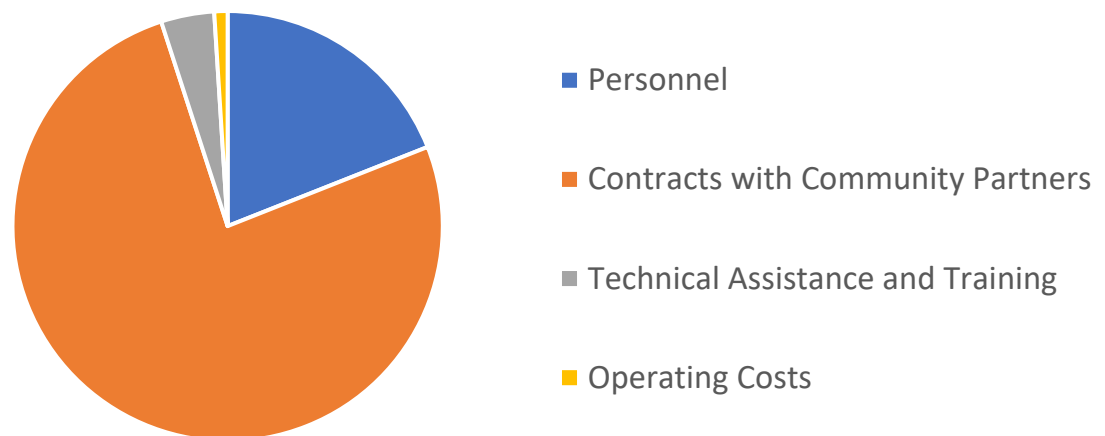
**Federal and state grant funds:** The Office of Violence Prevention receives grant funds to support some of its work. In 2021, grant funds totaled approximately \$4.5 million. Some of that was federal funding, including allocations from Community Development Block Grant, American Rescue Plan Act\*, the City's Resiliency in

Communities After Stress and Trauma grant, and a competitive grant awarded to the Office of Violence Prevention by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Office of Violence Prevention also received a competitive grant award from the state Office of Justice Programs. \*The American Rescue Plan Act is a multi-year spending program, and some funds allocated in 2021 are meant to be spent in 2021 and beyond.

## SPENDING CATEGORIES

The Office of Violence Prevention operating budget can be broken down into four primary categories: personnel, contracts with community partners, technical assistance and training, and operating costs.

Approximate Percentage of 2021 Office of Violence Prevention Spending by Category



**Personnel:** In 2021, approximately 19% of the Office of Violence Prevention’s spending went to personnel costs. That funding supported a staff team of 15 people in 2021.

**Technical assistance and training:** In 2021, approximately 4% of the Office of Violence Prevention’s spending went to technical assistance and training. Much of the Office of Violence Prevention’s work is rooted in evidence-informed strategies that have been used and evaluated elsewhere in the country. In order to effectively implement that work locally, we rely on training and technical assistance from experts in the field. In addition, the Office of Violence Prevention also sponsors training by contracted experts for community.

**Contracts with community partners:** In 2021, approximately 76% of the Office of Violence Prevention’s spending went into community as contracts with community partners. Office of Violence Prevention staff develop and manage prevention and intervention strategies, monitor projects, build and maintain relationships, convene and support stakeholders, provide technical assistance, and more. But most of the Office of Violence Prevention’s violence prevention and intervention strategies depend on partnership with contracted community-based providers responsible for doing the work on the ground in community. Funds to support those contracts with community partners comprise the largest percentage of the Office of Violence Prevention’s budget.

**Budget and spending notes:** Federal grants operate on a different fiscal calendar than the City's, which means that in some cases both revenue and contracts/spending may span across multiple years. Further, contract periods do not always match the calendar year—contracts can be newly executed or can end at various times throughout the year and can span across multiple years. Because of that, this summary picture of 2021 budget and spending may not exactly match previously or currently available information.

## 2021 Office of Violence Prevention Contracted Partners

*In 2021, the Office of Violence Prevention contracted with over 70 agencies. The below tables are an approximate point-in-time snapshot summary of many of those contracts for 2021.*

### Contracted Partners: Evidence-informed Strategies

Organization	Amount	Initiative
Central Area Neighborhood Development Organization	\$390,000	Minneapolis Strategic Outreach Initiative
Change Equals Opportunity/Jamil Jackson	\$85,000	Group Violence Intervention
Change Equals Opportunity/Jamil Jackson	\$100,000	Minneapolis Strategic Outreach Initiative
Corcoran Neighborhood Association	\$740,000	Minneapolis Strategic Outreach Initiative
David Carson (Project Consultant)	\$10,000	Group Violence Intervention
Hennepin Healthcare	\$455,000	Next Step
Jalilia Abdul Brown (Project Consultant)	\$10,000	Minneapolis Strategic Outreach Initiative
Metro Youth Diversion Center	\$374,296	Minneapolis Strategic Outreach Initiative
Muhammad Abdul-Ahad/T.O.U.C.H Outreach	\$40,000	Group Violence Intervention
Northpoint Health and Wellness	\$481,585	Group Violence Intervention
One Family One Community	\$20,000	Group Violence Intervention
Restoration, Inc.	\$285,000	Minneapolis Strategic Outreach Initiative
Urban Youth Conservation/Ferome Brown	\$375,000	Minneapolis Strategic Outreach Initiative
Urban Youth Conservation/Ferome Brown	\$135,000	Group Violence Intervention
We Push for Peace	\$285,000	Minneapolis Strategic Outreach Initiative
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,785,881</b>	

### Contracted Partners: Capacity Building and Innovation

Organization	Amount	Initiative
African American Survivors Services	\$6,000	Blueprint Approved Institute
American Indian OIC	\$59,184	Violence Prevention Fund
Art is My Weapon	\$28,800	Violence Prevention Fund
Becoming a Man	\$6,000	Blueprint Approved Institute

Black Army Brigade	\$6,000	Blueprint Approved Institute
Black Family Blueprint	\$52,320	Violence Prevention Fund
Center for Multicultural Mediation	\$24,979	Violence Prevention Fund
Chinese American Chamber of Commerce	\$25,000	Violence Prevention Fund
CLUES	\$25,000	Violence Prevention Fund
Conflict Resolution Center	\$60,000	Violence Prevention Fund
Dynamic Family Solutions	\$10,000	Violence Prevention Fund
Elliot Park Neighborhood Association	\$60,000	Violence Prevention Fund
Elliot Park Neighborhood Association	\$6,000	Blueprint Approved Institute
Emerge Community Development	\$45,000	Violence Prevention Fund
Encouraging Leaders	\$40,000	Violence Prevention Fund
Encouraging Leaders	\$6,000	Blueprint Approved Institute
Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches	\$45,000	Violence Prevention Fund
Growing North Minneapolis	\$25,000	Violence Prevention Fund
Hennepin Theatre Trust	\$20,833	Violence Prevention Fund
HIRED	\$20,833	Violence Prevention Fund
Kente Circle Training Institute	\$1,000	Violence Prevention Fund
Lao Assistance Center of Minnesota	\$46,557	Violence Prevention Fund
Lutheran Social Services	\$10,000	Violence Prevention Fund
Muhammad Abdul-Ahad/T.O.U.C.H Outreach	\$6,000	Blueprint Approved Institute
Neighborhood HealthSource	\$60,000	Violence Prevention Fund
Northside Residents Redevelopment Council	\$43,750	Violence Prevention Fund
Organic Oneness (Gatekeeper Ministries)	\$6,000	Blueprint Approved Institute
Phumulani Minnesota African Women	\$20,833	Violence Prevention Fund
Pillsbury United Communities - Brian Coyle Center	\$24,962	Violence Prevention Fund
Restorative Justice Community Action	\$10,000	Violence Prevention Fund
Sanctuary Covenant Church, Inc.	\$20,833	Violence Prevention Fund
SEWA-AIFW	\$43,750	Violence Prevention Fund
SEWA-AIFW	\$6,000	Blueprint Approved Institute
Somali Community Resettlement Services	\$43,750	Violence Prevention Fund
St. Olaf Lutheran Church	\$10,000	Violence Prevention Fund
Technologist Computers	\$6,000	Blueprint Approved Institute
The Agape Movement	\$6,000	Blueprint Approved Institute
The Anika Foundation	\$31,750	Violence Prevention Fund
The Banyan Foundation	\$10,000	Violence Prevention Fund
The Man Up Club	\$60,000	Violence Prevention Fund
The Seeccaa Group	\$6,000	Blueprint Approved Institute

Webber Camden Neighborhood Organization	\$65,833	Violence Prevention Fund
We Push for Peace	\$6,000	Blueprint Approved Institute
We Push for Peace	\$60,000	Violence Prevention Fund
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,176,967</b>	

### Contracted Partners: Youth-Centered Prevention and Intervention

Organization	Amount	Initiative
Brothers EMpowered	\$2,000	Youth Violence Prevention Week
Change Equals Opportunity	\$1,000	Youth Violence Prevention Week
Change Starts With Community	\$2,000	Youth Violence Prevention Week
Confederation of Somali Community In Minnesota	\$900	Youth Violence Prevention Week
Corcoran Neighborhood Organization	\$1,434	Youth Violence Prevention Week
Emerge Community Development	\$1,000	Youth Violence Prevention Week
Hennepin Theater Trust	\$500	Youth Violence Prevention Week
Hopewell Music Cooperative - North	\$1,000	Youth Violence Prevention Week
Innovative SOULutions	\$1,000	Youth Violence Prevention Week
Legal Rights Center	\$1,000	Youth Violence Prevention Week
Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board	\$89,975	CDC/YCB Outreach
Phumulani Minnesota African Women	\$1,000	Youth Violence Prevention Week
Restoration, Inc.	\$1,000	Youth Violence Prevention Week
The Doorstep Foundation	\$1,000	Youth Violence Prevention Week
The Link	\$315,841	Youth Connection Center
Tubman	\$361,000	Inspiring Youth
Urban Youth Conservation/Ferome Brown	\$1,000	Youth Violence Prevention Week
We Push for Peace	\$1,000	Youth Violence Prevention Week
YMCA of the North	\$50,000	CDC Grant
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$833,650</b>	

### Contracted Partners: Other

Organization	Amount	Initiative
A Mother's Love	\$87,500	Community Outreach and Support
A Mother's Love	\$65,000	Trauma Response
Amy Moser Consulting LLC	\$48,450	Technical Assistance and Community Training
Barbara Schneider Foundation	\$40,000	Technical Assistance and Community Training
Center for Multicultural Mediation	\$175,000	Community Outreach and Support

Change Equals Opportunity	\$175,000	Community Outreach and Support
Change Starts with Community	\$87,000	Gender-Specific Violence Prevention
Change Starts with Community	\$63,000	Trauma Response
Corcoran Neighborhood Organization	\$175,000	Community Outreach and Support
Cure Violence Global	\$165,000	Technical Assistance and Community Training
Native American Community Development Institute	\$175,000	Community Outreach and Support
Restoration, Inc	\$175,000	Community Outreach and Support
Roger Meyer Consulting, Inc.	\$9,000	Engagement
Salus Consulting	\$40,000	Engagement
Shiloh Temple	\$137,750	Trauma Response
The Agape Movement	\$25,000	Post-incident Intervention
We Push for Peace	\$87,500	Community Outreach and Support
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,730,200</b>	

#### MORE INFORMATION:

For questions or more information, please contact [ViolencePrevention@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:ViolencePrevention@minneapolismn.gov)

#### REFERENCES:

1: National Network of Hospital-based Violence Intervention Programs. (2019). Hospital-based Violence Intervention: Practices and Policies to End the Cycle of Violence. Available at <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d6f61730a2b610001135b79/t/5d83c0d9056f4d4cbdb9acd9/1568915699707/NNHVIP+White+Paper.pdf>.

2: National Network for Safe Communities. Group violence intervention. Available at <https://nnscommunities.org/strategies/group-violence-intervention/>.

3: Cure Violence Global. (2021). The evidence of effectiveness. Available at <https://cvg.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Cure-Violence-Evidence-Summary.pdf>.